

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2611
AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USIAEA

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG AFIN IAEA OCON FR
SUBJ: JUNE MEETING OF IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
AGENCY'S BUDGET FOR 1979

REF: (A) STATE 140643; (B) STATE 141243

1. IN ADDITION TO DETAILED COMMENTS PROVIDED TO THE
DEPARTMENT BY THE FRENCH EMBASSY WASHINGTON, LOUET
ADVISES THAT THE PRINCIPAL RESTRICTION ON FUNDS
AVAILABLE FROM THE GOF TO THE IAEA FOR ITS 1979 BUDGET
IS THE EXTREMELY TIGHT FRENCH NATIONAL BUDGET WHICH
HAS DENIED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ANY INCREASES IN ITS
TOTAL BUDGET AND REQUIRES THAT THAT MINISTRY MAKE
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ADJUSTMENTS IN ITS BUDGET TO MEET ITS PERCEIVED NEEDS.
THE MFA BUDGET INCLUDES A 10 PERCENT INCREASE FOR GOF
CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
AND AFTER SOME INTERNAL DISCUSSION, IT
WAS AGREED THAT THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE IAEA WOULD BE
LIMITED TO 15 PERCENT.

2. THE MAXIMUM THE GOF CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE BUDGET IS THUS AN INCREASE OF 15 PERCENT. WHILE THE GOF WOULD NOT OBJECT TO OTHERS CONTRIBUTING GREATER THAN 15 PERCENT, IT DOES NOT WISH TO BECOME OBLIGED TO PAY MORE THAN AN INCREASE. WHILE LOUET IS QUICK TO CONFIRM THAT THIS FRENCH IMPOSED POTENTIAL LIMITATION ON THE IAEA IS NOT MADE FOR POLITICAL REASONS, HE ADDS THAT THE GOF WOULD NOT OBJECT TO AN EXPANSION OF THE IAEA'S SAFEGUARDS ACTIVITIES, LEAVING IT TO THE IAEA STAFF TO DECIDE WHERE OTHER CUTS SHOULD BE MADE IN THE LOUET ADDED THAT THE PROPOSED 38 PERCENT INCREASE BY THE STAFF WAS TOO MUCH IN TIMES OF SIZEABLE INFLATION.

3. LOUET INDICATED THAT THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO URGE THAT MAJOR DONORS AGREE EARLY ON THE NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET INCREASE LIMITS AND PERMIT THE SECRETARIAT SUFFICIENT TIME TO SHAPE AN APPROPRIATE PROGRAM TO MEET THAT CEILING.
HARTMAN

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